

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546

IN REPLY REFER TO: SB(OER: lmb)

June 26, 1967

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Department of Genetics Stanford University Palo Alto, California 94304

Dear Joshua:

Many thanks for your recent letter regarding the possible use of antibiotics as food supplements. This raises some interesting questions relative not only to bioregenerative life support systems but also to possible implications of planetary contamination. As a result, I have asked George Jacobs and Larry Hall, from Bioscience Programs, and Leo Fox, from Biotechnology and Human Research Division, to investigate this idea and find outwhat work is being done along these lines under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or other sponsorship. I must confess that I know of no one pursuing such an investigation at this time.

As soon as I have any information, I will let you know.

Sincerely,

Orr E. Reynolds, Director Bioscience Programs Office of Space Science

and Applications